

COUNTY OF RAVALLI



Ravalli County Commissioners
215 S. 4th Street, Suite A
Hamilton, MT. 59840
406-375-6500

September 12, 2008

Honorable Ron Stoker
Honorable J.G. Shockley
Members of Law and Justice interim Committee

RE: Opposition to Detainee Medical Costs

Dear Ron and Jim;

We understand this proposed legislation will be discussed by the Law and Justice Interim Subcommittee on Monday, September 15, 2008. We ask that this proposed legislation be stopped because it is unreasonable and unfair to local counties. Ravalli County is in middle of attempting to adopt our budget for Fiscal Year 2009 and after budget hearings and deliberations that have taken up over 100 hours, we are still falling short of adopting a budget that is 'bare bones'. This legislation will require local government to pay for the services that at minimum should be a shared responsibility by numerous entities.

Not only does this pending legislation negatively impact our budget and delivery of local services, but it is obvious there are other issues of legality and liability that need to be considered.

Sincerely,
BOARD OF RAVALLI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Carlotta Grandstaff, Chairman


Alan Thompson, Member


Kathleen Driscoll, Member


James E. Rokosch, Member


Greg Chilcott, Member